

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 083369  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 COME-00 MCE-00 ACDA-12 EA-10  
/092 R

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APPROVED BY T - MRS. BENSON  
PM/SAS - ASKOCHAUCK  
ACDA - COL.FORD  
EUR/RPM - JFROEBE  
L/PM - MR. BOREK

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P 312021Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083369

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: US, SP, MASS

SUBJECT: THIRD COUNTRY SALES OF SEA CONTROL SHIP (SCS)

REFS: (A) MADRID 1226 (021913Z FEB '78)  
(B) STATE 77 210482 (020109Z SEP '77)

1. DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED THE POLICY (REF B) ON THIRD COUNTRY SALES OF SCS CONSTRUCTED IN SPAIN USING US TECHNICAL DATA AND ASSISTANCE. IN THIS REVIEW, DEPARTMENT'S OBJECTIVE WAS TO HONOR US PAST COMMITMENTS TO SPAIN WHILE AT THE SAME TIME NOT INFRINGING THE POLICY GOALS OF PD-13 ANOTHER DESIRE WAS TO CLARIFY FURTHER THE SITUATION WITH THE GOS SO THAT UNREALISTIC SPANISH HOPES FOR THIRD-COUNTRY SALES WOULD NOT ARISE, ONLY TO HAVE  
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PAGE 02 STATE 083369

CORRESPONDING GOS REQUESTS REJECTED BY THE US. WE BELIEVE THE REVISED POLICY IS MORE HONEST SINCE IT SHOULD NOT LEAD TO UNREALISTIC HOPES.

2. THE REVIEW HAS RESULTED IN A POLICY DECISION WHICH WOULD PERMIT, ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, SALES OF SPANISH-CONSTRUCTED SCS TO PD-13 EXEMPT COUNTRIES. EMBASSY SHOULD

INFORM GOS OF THIS POLICY, USING THE EXPLANATORY TALKING POINTS PROVIDED BELOW:

3. TALKING POINTS:

-- US LAW AND REGULATION REQUIRE CASE BY CASE CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR SALES TO THIRD COUNTRIES OF USG-ORIGIN DEFENSE ARTICLES, INCLUDING ITEMS CONSTRUCTED OUTSIDE OF THE US WITH AMERICAN TECHNICAL DATA AND ASSISTANCE. THUS, WE CANNOT GIVE BLANKET PRIOR APPROVAL TO THIRD COUNTRY SALES BY SPAIN OF ANY USG-ORIGIN DEFENSE ARTICLES.

-- HOWEVER, GENERAL US PRACTICE IS TO APPROVE THE SALE OR TRANSFER OF DEFENSE ARTICLES TO A THIRD COUNTRY IF AT THE TIME THE USG WOULD APPROVE DIRECT SALE OR TRANSFER BY AMERICAN PRODUCERS OF THE SAME OR SIMILAR DEFENSE ARTICLES.

-- US POLICY IS TO BE EXTREMELY RESTRICTIVE REGARDING DIRECT SALE OR TRANSFER OF ANY AIRCRAFT CARRIER AND REQUIRED OUTFITTING EQUIPMENT, AND APPROVAL OF SUCH SALE OR TRANSFER IS CURRENTLY FORESEEN (SHOULD THEY SO REQUEST) ONLY TO A VERY LIMITED NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, THAT IS, TO OUR NATO AND ANZUS ALLIES AND JAPAN, WITH WHOM WE HAVE A MUTUAL SECURITY AND COOPERATION TREATY.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 083369

-- USG, THEREFORE, IS PREPARED TO GIVE PROMPT AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO SPANISH SALES OF SCS CONSTRUCTED IN SPAIN WITH US-ORIGIN TECHNICAL DATA AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ONLY TO NATO COUNTRIES, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND JAPAN (SALE OF USG-FURNISHED OUTFITTING EQUIPMENT WOULD BE ON A USG/THIRD COUNTRY BASIS AND WOULD BE APPROVED FOR THOSE SAME COUNTRIES). REQUESTS BY THE GOS FOR TRANSFER OF SUCH SCS TO OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD BE CONSIDERED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS BUT THE USG CANNOT BE ENCOURAGING REGARDING ITS PROBABLE RESPONSE.

-- THIS US POSITION WILL BE REFLECTED IN THE UPCOMING LOA ON THE SCS. COOPER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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